

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A tamper-indicating bag, comprising:

first and second walls joined together along spaced joining lines to form an enclosure having an open end;

a tamper-evident indicator extending in a longitudinal direction, the tamper-evident indicator including a backing layer joined to said first wall at said open end of said enclosure, a layer of a release material disposed in a predetermined pattern on said backing layer so as to define first regions in which said release material is present and second regions in which said release material is not present, adjacent ones of said first regions being spaced apart by a first distance in said longitudinal direction, and a layer of ink disposed overlie over said release material layer, said ink layer including a plurality of spaces devoid of ink arranged in a selected pattern, adjacent ones of said plurality of spaces being spaced apart in said longitudinal direction by a second distance different from said first distance, said selected pattern being which is out of registry with said predetermined pattern of said release material so as to define regions of varying shape in which said ink overlies said release material and regions of varying shape in which said ink does not overlie said release material;

a layer of adhesive adapted to secure said indicator to said second wall in a sealed condition of said enclosure so

that said ink layer is disposed between said backing layer and said adhesive layer;

said ink layer having a greater adhesion to said second wall than to said backing layer in regions overlying said release material, and having a lower adhesion to said second wall than to said backing layer in regions not overlying said release material so that, upon separation of said backing layer from said second wall, portions of said ink layer will separate from said backing layer while a remainder of said ink layer will not separate from said backing layer, whereby said predetermined pattern will be visible in said indicator.

2. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein said backing layer is at least partially transparent in a region overlapping with said ink layer in said sealed condition of said enclosure.

3. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein said predetermined pattern of said release material is different from said selected pattern of said plurality of spaces devoid of ink.

4. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein said tamper-evident indicator has a first visual appearance in an initial sealed condition of said enclosure, and has a visual appearance upon separation of said backing layer from said second wall which is different from said first visual appearance.

5. (original) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 4, further comprising a preprinted graphic on one of said first and second walls, said preprinted graphic having an appearance which is the same as said first visual appearance of said tamper-evident indicator.

6. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein said predetermined pattern of said release material at least partially overlaps with said selected pattern of said plurality of spaces devoid of ink.

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A tamper-indicating bag, comprising:

first and second walls joined together along spaced joining lines to form an enclosure having an open end;

a tape secured to said first wall, said tape being spaced from said second wall in an open condition of said enclosure and being secured to said second wall in a sealed condition of said enclosure;

said tape including an elongated flexible strip extending in a longitudinal direction, a layer of a release material disposed in a predetermined pattern on said strip so as to define first regions in which said release material is present and second regions in which said release material is not present, adjacent ones of said first regions being spaced apart by a first distance in said longitudinal direction, and a layer of ink disposed on said strip over said release material layer, said ink layer including a plurality of spaces devoid of ink arranged in a selected pattern, adjacent ones of said plurality of spaces being spaced apart in said longitudinal direction by a

second distance different from said first distance, said selected pattern being which is out of registry with said predetermined pattern of said release material so as to define regions of varying shape in which said ink overlies said release material and regions of varying shape in which said ink does not overlie said release material;

a layer of adhesive adapted to secure said tape to said second wall in said sealed condition of said enclosure so that said ink layer is disposed between said strip and said adhesive layer;

said ink layer having a greater adhesion to said second wall than to said strip in regions overlying said release material, and having a lower adhesion to said second wall than to said strip in regions not overlying said release material so that, upon separation of said strip from said second wall, portions of said ink layer will separate from said strip while a remainder of said ink layer will not separate from said strip, whereby said predetermined pattern will be visible in said tape.

9. (original) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 8, wherein said strip is at least partially transparent.

10. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 8, wherein said predetermined pattern of said release material is different from said selected pattern of said plurality of spaces devoid of ink.

11. (original) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 8, wherein said tape has a first visual appearance in an initial sealed condition of said enclosure, and has a visual

appearance upon separation of said tape from said second wall which is different from said first visual appearance.

12. (original) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a preprinted graphic on one of said first and second walls, said preprinted graphic having an appearance which is the same as said first visual appearance of said tape.

13. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating bag as claimed in claim 8, wherein said predetermined pattern of said release material at least partially overlaps with said selected pattern of said plurality of spaces devoid of ink.

14. (cancelled)

15. (currently amended) A tamper-indicating tape for providing a closure seal for a container, said tape comprising:

an elongate, flexible strip extending in a longitudinal direction and having first and second sides;

a layer of a release material disposed in a predetermined pattern on said first side of said strip so as to define first regions in which said release material is present and second regions in which said release material is not present, adjacent ones of said first regions being spaced apart by a first distance in said longitudinal direction;

a layer of ink disposed on said first side of said strip over said release material layer, said ink layer including a plurality of spaces devoid of ink arranged in a selected pattern, adjacent ones of said plurality of spaces being spaced

apart in said longitudinal direction by a second distance different from said first distance, said selected pattern being
~~which is~~ out of registry with said predetermined pattern of said release material so as to define regions ~~of varying shape~~ in which said ink overlies said release material and regions ~~of varying shape~~ in which said ink does not overlie said release material; and

a layer of adhesive disposed over said ink layer;

said ink layer having a greater adhesion to said adhesive layer than to said strip in regions overlying said release material, and having a lower adhesion to said adhesive layer than to said strip in regions not overlying said release material so that, upon separation of said tape from the container, portions of said ink layer will separate from said strip while a remainder of said ink layer will not separate from said strip, whereby said predetermined pattern will be visible in said tape.

16. (original) The tamper-indicating tape as claimed in claim 15, wherein said strip is at least partially transparent.

17. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating tape as claimed in claim 15, wherein said predetermined pattern of said release material is different from said selected pattern of said plurality of spaces devoid of ink.

18. (original) The tamper-indicating tape as claimed in claim 15, wherein said tape has a first visual appearance as initially applied to the container, and has a visual appearance upon separation of said tape from the container which is different from said first visual appearance.

19. (previously presented) The tamper-indicating tape as claimed in claim 15, wherein said predetermined pattern of said release material at least partially overlaps with said selected pattern of said plurality of spaces devoid of ink.

20. (cancelled)